

Remarks

Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,807,537 of *Thiesson et al.* ("Thiesson").

Claims 1-10 are cancelled.

New claims 11-29 are added.

Applicant respectfully submits that new claim 11 is not anticipated by *Thiesson* because *Thiesson* does not disclose adapting a set of parameters of a Bayesian network that models an environment in response to a set of present observation data obtained from the environment as claimed in new claim 11. Instead, *Thiesson* teaches generating a Bayesian network, an MBN 508, in response to a set of empirical data 504 and a set of expert knowledge 506 stored in a permanent storage 306. (*Thiesson*, Figure 6 and col. 21, line 65). For example, *Thiesson* discloses a test network 608 and a network adjuster 606 that generates a new test network 608 having a new node structure using a scoring mechanism 602. (*Thiesson*, col. 21, lines 58-65). In short, *Thiesson* discloses a method for designing a Bayesian network including its node structure and its parameters whereas new claim 11 claims adapting a set of parameters of a Bayesian network while it is in use with present observation data. For example, new claim 11 includes the limitation of obtaining a set of present observation data from the environment.

Moreover, *Thiesson* does not disclose a learning rate that indicates a relative weight of a set of present observation data and a set of past observation data pertaining to an environment as claimed in new claim 11. Instead, *Thiesson* discloses data summarizing real-world cases (observation data) (*Thiesson*, col. 29, lines 35-47) without regard to a relative weight of past and present real-world cases. Nothing in the teachings of *Thiesson* even suggest that the data on real-world

cases disclosed therein is distinguishable by past and present when selecting a decision graph.

The examiner has stated that the teaching in *Thiesson* of a scoring mechanism 602 and a network adjuster 508 that generate an improved MBN 508 includes past and present observations. (Page 3, Office Action, 2-7-06). It is respectfully submitted that *Thiesson* does not teach that the scoring mechanism 602 and the network adjuster 508 use a learning rate that indicates a relative weight of a set of past observation data and a set of present observation data as claimed in new claim 11. Instead, the scoring mechanism 602 and the network adjuster 508 use past observation data, i.e. a set of empirical data 504 that is stored in a permanent storage 306. (See Figure 6 of *Thiesson*).

Given that new claim 12-20 depend from new claim 11, it is submitted that new claims 12-20 are not anticipated by *Thiesson*.

It is further submitted that new claim 21 is not anticipated by *Thiesson* because *Thiesson* does not disclose on-line adapter that adapts a set of parameters for a Bayesian network in response to a set of present observation data according to a learning rate that indicates a relative weight of a set of past observation data and the present observation data as claimed in new claim 21. Instead, *Thiesson* teaches generating a Bayesian network, an MBN 508, in response to a set of empirical data 504 and a set of expert knowledge 506 stored in a permanent storage 306. (*Thiesson*, Figure 6 and col. 21, line 65).

Given that new claims 22-29 depend from new claim 21, it is submitted that new claims 22-29 are not anticipated by *Thiesson*.

It is respectfully submitted that in view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, the applicable rejections have been overcome.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-2025 for any matter in connection with this response, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

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